

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:ECINGRAHAM:CCH

APPROVED BY EA - MR. MILLER

AF/W - MR. REHFUSS

EUR/NE - MS. SHIRLEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 032882

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, NL, ID, SG

SUBJECT: REPUBLIC OF SOUTH MOLUCCAS REPRESENTATIVES
IN DAKAR

REF: DAKAR 688

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1. APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF SENGHOR'S MOTIVES
IN RECEIVING REPS FROM REPUBLIC OF SOUTH MOLUCCAS (RSM)

MOVEMENT. WOULD APPEAR GOS HAS RATHER IMPRECISE KNOWLEDGE OF RSM AND ITS ADHERENTS, IN THAT -- APART FROM ITS PENCHANT FOR TERRORISM -- IT IS BY NO MEANS A "PROGRESSIVE" GROUP. NOR COULD AMBONESE WHO COMPRISE RSM BE CONSIDERED A BLACK COMMUNITY SINCE THEY ARE PREDOMINANTLY MALAY IN ETHNIC MAKEUP.

2. AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW, ORIGIN OF RSM GOES BACK TO COLONIAL PERIOD IN INDONESIA WHEN DUTCH RECRUITED AMBONESE FOR NETHERLANDS INDIES COLONIAL ARMY TO EXCLUSION OF MOST OTHER INDONESIAN COMMUNITIES. FOLLOWING ATTAINMENT OF INDONESIAN INDEPENDENCE, AMBONESE STAGED BRIEF REVOLT AGAINST CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN EARLY 1950S WHICH WAS PUT DOWN AFTER CONSIDERABLE FIGHTING. AS HUMANITARIAN GESTURE, DUTCH SUBSEQUENTLY PERMITTED SOME THOUSANDS OF AMBONESE SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO SETTLE IN HOLLAND AS

IMMIGRANTS. IT IS THIS GROUP AND, INCREASINGLY, ITS DUTCH-BORN DESCENDENTS, THAT COMPRISE RSM. THERE IS NO LONGER ANY ACTIVE DISSIDENCE OR SUPPORT FOR RSM IN INDONESIA, AND GROUP IS NOW ENTIRELY DUTCH-BASED. OVER THE YEARS RSM EXTREMISTS HAVE ENGAGED IN LONG SERIES OF TERRORIST ACTS DIRECTED MAINLY AGAINST THEIR DUTCH HOSTS, CULMINATING IN LAST DECEMBER'S SEIZURE OF DUTCH TRAIN AND SIMULTANEOUS OCCUPATION OF INDONESIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN AMSTERDAM.

3. FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, NO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT HAS EVER RECOGNIZED RSM NOR ENDORSED ITS QUIXOTIC OBJECTIVE OF CREATING INDEPENDENT STATE IN EASTERN INDONESIA. RSM REPS SHOW UP PERIODICALLY AT UN, HOWEVER, AND SEEK TO HOBNOB WITH OTHER EXPATRIATE "LIBERATION" GROUPS IN ORDER TO ATTRACT SOME OF LATTER'S POPULARITY IN RADICAL CIRCLES.

4. RE QUESTION OF ASSOCIATING WITH RSM REPS IN DAKAR, WE WOULD WANT TO AVOID ANY ACTION WHICH COULD BE TAKEN AS SIGN OF APPROVAL OR RECOGNITION OF GROUP OR ITS OBJECTIVES. THEREFORE YOU SHOULD NOT EXTEND NOR ACCEPT INVITATIONS, SEEK THEM OUT, NOR DEAL WITH THEM ON AN OFFICIAL BASIS.
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NO HARM IN CASUAL CONTACT WITH THEM ON SOCIAL OCCASIONS HOSTED BY OTHERS.

5. IF EMBASSY DAKAR HAS NO OBJECTION, WE WOULD LIKE TO INFORM INDONESIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON ORALLY AND ON VERY INFORMAL BASIS THAT RSM REPS HAVE SURFACED IN DAKAR AND ARE APPARENTLY SEEKING TO OPEN AN OFFICE THERE. (NOT UNLIKELY, OF COURSE, THAT INDONESIANS ALREADY KNOW THIS). WE WOULD NOT GO BEYOND THIS, AND WOULD LEAVE IT ENTIRELY UP TO THEM WHAT, IF ANYTHING, THEY MIGHT WANT TO DO ABOUT

IT. INGERSOLL

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